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Application Number 09/634,612

TRANSMITTAL

Filing Date August 5, 2000

First Named Inventor RONALD J. ROSENBERGER

Art Unit 3622

Examiner Name James W. Myhre

Attorney Docket Number

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PTO/SB/17 (12-04v2)

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Complete if Known Effective on 12/08/2004. Asuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818). Application Number TRANSMITTA Filing Date For FY 2005 First Named Inventor Oslukeral **Examiner Name** Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27 Art Unit TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT Attorney Docket No. METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply) Check 1 Credit Card Money Order None Other (please identify): Deposit Account Deposit Account Number: Deposit Account Name: For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply) Charge fee(s) indicated below Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) Credit any overpayments under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. **FEE CALCULATION** 1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES **FILING FEES** SEARCH FEES **EXAMINATION FEES** Small Entity **Small Entity Small Entity Application Type** Fee (\$) Fee (\$) Fees Paid (\$) Fee (\$) Fee (\$) Fee (\$) Fee (\$) 300 Utility 150 500 250 200 100 Design 200 100 100 130 50 65 200 Plant 100 300 160 150 80 Reissue 300 150 500 600 250 300 **Provisional** 200 100 0 0 2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES **Small Entity** Fee (\$) Fee Description Fee (\$) Each claim over 20 (including Reissues) 50 25 Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues) 200 100 Multiple dependent claims 360 180 **Total Claims Extra Claims Multiple Dependent Claims** Fee Paid (\$) Fee (\$) 20 or HP = Fee (\$) Fee Paid (\$) HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20. **Extra Claims** Fee (\$) Indep. Claims Fee Paid (\$) HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3. 3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets Extra Sheets Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof Fee (\$) Fee Paid (\$) -100 =(round up to a whole number) x 4. OTHER FEE(S) Fees Paid (\$) Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount) Other (e.g., late filing surcharge) SUBMITTED BY Registration No. Telephone Signature (Attorney/Agent) Date Name (Print/Type) blers

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# BEFORE THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

RONALD JOHN ROSENBERGER

Application No.:

09/634,612

Art. Unit: 3622

Filing Date:

August 5, 2000

Examiner: James W. Myhre

Title: HEALTH REMINDERS FOR END USERS OF FINANCIAL CARD **SERVICES** 

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents **Commissioner for Patents** P. O. Box: 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

### APPELLANT'S BRIEF UNDER 37 CFR 1.192

Dear Sir:

In conjunction with the Notice of Appeal filed on September 22, 2005 in the above-referenced case, Applicant (Appellant) hereby submits the following brief, due December 22, 2005. Transmitted herewith is a payment for \$250 to cover the required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(c).

# **Real Party in Interest**

The Applicant-inventor, Ronald Rosenberger is the owner of entire interest in the above-identified patent application as the sole Applicant, and which interest has not been assigned.

# **Related Appeals and Interferences**

There are no related appeals or interferences that will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

# **Status of Claims**

Claims 146-205 are now pending. All of the pending claims stand rejected as being unpatentable over the prior art of record for anticipation under.

## **Status of Amendments**

The Examiner entered an Amendment under 37 CFR 116, mailed on July 23, 2005, in response to the Final Office Action of June 23, 2005 as indicated in an Advisory Action mailed on August 3, 2005. The Examiner maintained his rejections as indicated in the Advisory Action. Applicants filed a Pre-Appeal Brief Request and Remarks and Notice of Appeal on September 22, 2005, for which an Office Action maintaining the pending rejections was issued on November 22, 2005, for which this Appeal Brief is due December 22, 2005.

#### **Summary of Invention**

The presently claimed invention provides a method for providing health reminders with transaction statements sent to or accessed by end users of financial cards and related financial card customer services, wherein the health reminder is not related to a product purchase listed on the transaction statement.

### **Issue**

Whether the Examiner has provided a reference or combination of references that suggest each and every element of the present claims and renders the present claims prima-facie obvious.

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**Grouping of Claims** 

All of the claims, including independent claims 146 and 176, are argued together.

**Arguments** 

On pages 2-9 of the Final Office Action dated June 23, 2005, and the Advisory

Action mailed August 3, 2005, the Examiner maintains the rejection of claims

146-205 under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over the combination of Byerly and

Bucci, in view of Masuda (US patent No. 5,569,897), for the reasons presented in

the final Office Action.

In contrast to the teachings of the cited reference, the presently claimed invention

provides a method for providing health reminders with transaction statements sent to

or accessed by end users of financial cards and related financial card customer

services, wherein the health reminder is not related to a product purchase listed on the

transaction statement.

Byerly merely teaches adding medical advisory information to pharmacy transaction

information that is relevant to the pharmaceutical for which the patient had bought

through the use of a doctor's prescription. This aspect of Byerly is specifically

excluded from the present claims such that Byerly cannot suggest or teach the

presently claimed invention.

Bucci fails to teach or suggest the presently claimed invention in that Bucci teaches

the electronic or computer combination of several financial services transaction

accounts into a single printed transaction statement. Bucci is also completely

unrelated to Byerly and the Examiner has combined these references using

impermissible hindsight of the teachings of the present application. The cited art must

provide a motivation to combine the references and the cited references fail to provide

such a motivation, and in fact teach away from such a combination.

Masuda teaches a credit card system that has an identity checking features that

confirms that the credit card is be used by the person the card was issued to. Masuda

is also completely unrelated to both Bucci and Byerly and the Examiner has combined

these references using impermissible hindsight of the teachings of the present application. The cited art must provide a motivation to combine the references and the cited references fail to provide such a motivation, and in fact teach away from such a combination.

Applicants respectfully submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not be taught or motivated to provide providing health reminders with transaction statements sent to or accessed by end users of financial cards and related financial card customer services, wherein the health reminder is not related to a product purchase listed on the transaction statement, using the combination of Byerly et al and Bucci, in view of Masuda (5,569,987).

The presently claimed invention is not taught or suggested by the cited references and there is **no motivation to combine** the references unrelated teachings of:

- (i) Byerly's teaching of adding medical advisory information to pharmacy transaction information that is relevant to the pharmaceutical for which the patient had bought through the use of a doctor's prescription; in combination with
- (ii) Bucci's teaching of the electronic or computer combination of several financial services transaction accounts into a single printed transaction statement; in combination with
- (iii) Masuda's teaching of a credit card system that has an identity checking features that confirms that the credit card is be used by the person the card.

Obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either explicitly or implicitly in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. "The test for an implicit showing is what the combined teachings, knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art, and the nature of the problem to be solved as a whole would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art." *In re Kotzab*, 217 F.3d 1365, 1370, 55 USPQ2d

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1313, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 2000). See also In re Lee, 277 F.3d 1338, 1342-44, 61

USPQ2d 1430, 1433-34 (Fed. Cir. 2002) (discussing the importance of relying

on objective evidence and making specific factual findings with respect to the

motivation to combine references); In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d

1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988); In re Jones, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir.

1992). *MPEP 2143.01* 

The Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness because the

cited references fail to teach the presently claimed invention and there is no

motivation to combine the references.

The cited references also teach away from the presently claimed invention. The

Examiner has used impermissible hindsight from the present specification and also

mischaracterized the cited references by ignoring the features of the subject matter

taught by the references and picking and choosing features of the present invention

into the references using impermissible hindsight provided by the present

specification. The Examiner also makes the statement that the references do not have

to suggest the combination to render obvious the claims. This is not correct, the

motivation to combine the references must be provided by the cited references, which

the cited references fail to do.

Applicants respectfully point out that the presently claimed invention relates to a

method for providing medical or health reminder information in a statement for a

financial card or account, where the health information is not related to purchases

made using the financial card or account (see for example Claim 146 below).

Thus, Byerly and Bucci are completely unrelated to each other and also do not in any

way teach or suggest the presently claimed method. Byerly and Bucci teach away

from each other and thus cannot be properly combined either with each other or

together with Masuda. Additionally, the asserted combination can only be combined

using impermissible hindsight of the teaching of the present specification.

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There is also no motivation to combine Byerly et al and Bucci due to the fact that the

two references "teach away" from each other in three distinct ways, as presented in

greater detail below. Only by improperly using hindsight based on the teaching of the

present specification would one of ordinary skill in the art combine the teachings of

the cited references.

The combination of Masuda and Byerly et al would require that Byerly et al teach a

credit card issuer, which Byerly completely fails to do. There is no possible

relationship between Masuda and Bucci because Bucci also fails to teach or suggest a

credit card issuer, where Bucci merely teaches to consolidate bills into a single

statement, which has no relationship to the presently claimed invention.

The "teach away" descriptions presented by **Byerly** et al and **Bucci**, are presented in

more detail below. In particular, the following establishes that Bucci and Byerly et al

"teach away" from each other in three ways: 1) with regards to method of delivery of

materials to the end user; 2) with regards to periodicity of the receipt of materials by

the end user; and, 3) with regards to when payment is made in relation to the

consumption of products or services. In light of the fact that the references "teach

away" from each other to such extents, there is nothing in either of the references that

would suggest that the motivation for combining the references is known outside of

the teaching of the present specification. As a result, the combination can at best be

obvious in hindsight, which is impermissible. Accordingly, Byerly and Bucci cannot

be combined, and thus cannot also be combined with Masuda.

Additionally, MPEP specifically prohibits the type of combination that the Examiner

has made in this rejection, for example, at section 2143.01, and especially as

described in detail in this section under the headings toward the end of the section

"THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION CANNOT RENDER THE PRIOR ART

UNSATISFACTORY FOR ITS INTENDED PURPOSE" and "THE PROPOSED

MODIFICATION CANNOT CHANGE THE PRINCIPLE OF OPERATION OF A

REFERENCE".

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"TEACH AWAY" COMPARISONS

BUCCI (5,655,089) VS BYERLY ET AL (6,067,524)

WITH REGARDS TO METHOD OF DELIVERY OF MATERIALS TO THE END

**USER** 

Bucci: Materials are mailed, or "electronically" transmitted; the end user does not

have to come to Bucci, Bucci sends the materials to the end user.

Byerly et al: The end user picks up the advisory message during the Pharmacy

transaction; the end user must come to the retail store environment of a Pharmacy.

Byerly et al refers to retail pharmacy customers or end users as "pharmacy patients"

(column 1, lines 21 and 24), or a singular retail pharmacy customer or end user as a

"patient" (column 6, line 41). Furthermore, Byerly et al explicitly "teaches away"

from mailing the "advisory message", as is seen in column 6, lines 39-48:

"The advisory message 440 can be in the form of a patient-customized newsletter, and

it can be delivered to the patient by the pharmacist. Studies have shown that patients

regularly use pharmacists as a source of medical information since pharmacists are

believed act objectively for the patient's best interests. Accordingly, having the

advisory information presented to a patient by his or her pharmacist is a reliable and

effective method of providing health advisory information as compared to

conventional methods, such as mass mailings, targeted mailings, etc."

RATIONALE - Bucci and Byerly et al "teach away" from each other with regard to

means of delivery. Bucci teaches mailing or electronic transmission, whereas Byerly

et al teaches actual pickup of advisory messages at the pharmacy by the "pharmacy

patient" end user, which enables live interaction with the pharmacist, which is deemed

by Byerly et al as being desired and greatly preferred to alternatives such as "mass

mailings, targeted mailings, etc." In fact, Byerly et al confirms this "teaching away"

from Bucci through evidence that Byerly et al provides no mechanism or contingency whatsoever for mailing the advisory messages.

WITH REGARDS TO PERIODICITY OF THE RECEIPT OF THE MATERIALS

BY THE END USER

Bucci: Materials are periodic, and are sent on a specified cycle "during a specified

period of time" (column 1, line 64), generally occurring monthly, as seen in column 1,

lines 7-9: "This invention relates to the mailing of bills, statements, advertising and

other communications to millions of homes and businesses each month".

examples illustrated in Bucci (column 3, table 1) of billing "subscribers" are as

follows: Chemical Mortgage Co., J.C.P.&L., West Keansburgh Water, Hazlet Twp.

Sewerage, Storer Cable, Citibank MasterCard, and American Express. All are

"subscribers" that send bills on a monthly basis; therefore, Bucci sends out the

materials on a regular, periodic, and cyclical basis.

Byerly et al: The advisory messages are distributed to end users on a non-regular,

non-periodic, non-cyclical basis. In Byerly et al, a given advisory message is relayed

to a "pharmacy patient" on an incidental basis. The incident that this is based on is

the occurrence of a pharmacy transaction. In Byerly et al, a "pharmacy patient" that

only gets a single prescription filled a year ends up receiving an advisory message

only once during that year, which occurs when said single prescription is picked up by

the "pharmacy patient".

RATIONALE - Bucci and Byerly et al teach away from each other with regard to

timing of information delivery, in that in Bucci, the information is delivered on a

regular/periodic/cyclical (monthly) basis, while in Byerly et al, the information is

delivered on an incidental basis.

WITH REGARDS TO WHEN PAYMENT IS MADE IN RELATION TO THE

CONSUMPTION OF PRODUCTS OR SERVICES

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Chemical Mortgage Co., J.C.P.&L., West Keansburgh Water, Hazlet Twp. Sewerage, Storer Cable, Citibank MasterCard, and American Express, are all entities that *bill* the end user, where the accounts are financially settled *after* the end user has consumed

Bucci: The examples illustrated in <u>Bucci</u> (column 3, table 1) of billing "subscribers":

the products or services. Even with Chemical Mortgage, the end user is making use

of a product (which in this instance is most likely a house), before it is fully paid for.

This even applies to the Storer Cable bill (cable bills tend to not be prepaid).

Byerly et al: Byerly et al is in fact a "point of sale" system in a retail store

environment of a pharmacy. This is confirmed in column 6, lines 49-50 of Byerly et

<u>al</u>:

"The invention represents a significant advance in the field of point-of-sale systems in

the pharmacy environment." As such, said system basically functions "during a

pharmacy transaction" (column 2, line 21). The information comprises "billing

information" (column 8, lines 5-6), but does it actually comprise a billing statement in

the same manner that <u>Bucci</u> does? It indeed does not. In any given pharmacy

situation, it is "old and well known" for a "pharmacy patient" end user to financially

settle the pharmacy transaction (in other words, pay for the prescription) prior to

leaving the pharmacy with a given prescription and prior to consuming the product

(although an exception could result where a pharmacy counter employee could allow

a "pharmacy patient" end user to use a not-yet-paid-for inhaler during an acute asthma

attack prior to the conclusion of the transaction). Any attempt to thwart payment at a

given retail point-of-sale prior to product consumption is generally considered

"shoplifting". In terms of Byerly et al, also it is logical that said "billing information"

would also comprise a receipt.

RATIONALE - Bucci and Byerly et al "teach away" from each other with regard to

billing practices, in that Bucci teaches where the end user is billed, and the accounts

are financially settled after the consumption of goods and services take place, whereas

Byerly et al teaches where the end user is billed, and the account is financially settled

prior to the consumption of the goods by the "pharmacy patient" end user.

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# **Conclusion**

In view of the above arguments and evidence of record, Applicants request that the Examiner's obviousness rejection be reversed and the case remanded to the Examiner for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

/Guy Kevin Townsend/

Guy Kevin Townsend Reg. No. 34,033 Attorney-Agent for Applicant

Date: December 22, 2005

#### APPENDIX A

### **CURRENT CLAIMS AS PREVIOUSLY AMENDED:**

146. (Previously Amended) A method of providing health reminders with transaction statements sent to or accessed by end users of financial cards and related financial card customer services, wherein the health reminder is not related to a product purchase listed on the transaction statement, said method comprising the steps of:

- a. providing said health reminder associated with transaction statements to said end users, wherein the health reminder is not related to a product purchase listed on the transaction statement and said financial cards and said related financial card services enables said end users to perform financial card functions relating to and comprising the purchase goods and services, and;
- b. wherein said method optionally further provides at least one of:
  - i. said health reminder acts as a health awareness tool for said end users;
  - ii. said health reminder comprises at least one health related reminder(s), tip(s), or suggestion(s) for said end users and/or individuals related to or otherwise associated with said end users with regards to any health-related topic(s), health-related preventive measure(s), medical check-up(s), medical examination(s), or medical procedure(s);
  - iii. said health awareness tool encourages said end users to take self-initiative or self-action to heed said health-related preventive measure(s), to schedule said medical check-up(s), said medical examination(s), or said medical procedure(s);
  - iv. said health awareness tool is not used to remind said end users of a preexisting or already scheduled doctor appointment, but rather to raise health awareness and to encourage said end users to self-schedule said medical check-up(s), said medical examination(s), and/or said medical procedure(s) in absence of

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any direct prompting from the doctors or health care professionals of said end users;

said method optionally further comprising at least one of:

- (b) attracting potential end users to said financial cards and said related financial card customer services comprising said health reminder;
- (c) converting said potential end users into said end users by enabling said potential end users to apply for said financial cards and said related financial card customer services, where the application for said financial cards and said related financial card customer services reflects the preferences, desires, or consent of said end users to receive said health reminder, or, in the case of said health reminder being offered to existing end users of financial cards and related financial card customer services, where said existing end users express preferences, desires or consent to receive said health reminder, and comprising the step of providing said potential end users with the step of applying for said financial cards and said related financial card customer services, where said the step of applying for said financial cards and said related financial card customer services comprises the use of any communicative format;
- (d) approving said potential end users to become approved said end users of said financial cards and said related financial card customer services, where the receiving of said health reminder is contingent upon said potential end users becoming said approved said end users of said financial cards and said financial card customer services, and where said health reminder is offered as an incentive for said potential end users to become said end users for said financial cards and said related financial card customer services;
- (e) providing and relaying prompts to said end users relating to said health reminder, where said the step of providing and relaying prompts comprises the use of any communicative format, and where said step of providing and relaying prompts to said end users may occur at any time before, during, or after said potential end users have become said

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approved end users of said financial cards and said related financial card customer services:

- (f) receiving end user data relating to said health reminder, where said step of receiving said end user data comprises the use of any communicative format, and where said step of receiving said end user data relating to said health reminder may occur at any time before, during, or after said potential end users have become said approved end users of said financial cards and said related financial card customer services;
- (g) storing said end user data on a computer readable medium relating to said health reminder;
- (h) allowing said end users to perform transactions relating to said financial cards and related financial card customer services, using said financial cards, resulting in transaction data;
- (i) storing said transaction data on a computer readable medium;
- (j) providing said health reminder to said end users based on said prompts and said end user data, where said step of providing said health reminder comprises the use of any communicative format; and,
- (k) providing financial card transaction statements to said end users based on said transaction data, where said step of providing said financial card transaction statements comprises the use of any communicative format.
- 147. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising the step of enabling said method to function in terms of a financial card comprising a health reminder feature, or where said method functions in terms of a health reminder comprising a financial card feature, comprising the step of enabling an entity that provides said health reminder to also issue financial cards and provide related financial card customer services, where said financial cards and said related financial card customer services are specifically offered in conjunction with, specifically related or tied to, or otherwise specifically combined with said health reminder, and not where said entity issues said financial cards and provides said related financial card customer services where said health reminder is not

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specifically offered in conjunction with, not specifically related or tied to, or not otherwise specifically combined with said financial cards and said related financial card customer services.

- 148. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said financial card to comprise any financial card used wholly or in part as a credit instrument.
- 149. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said financial card to comprise any financial card used wholly or in part as a debit or ATM instrument.
- 150. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said health reminder to comprise information provided by the following entities, either singularly, or plurally in any combination or permutation: said entity; said end users; or a third party entity or third party entities, where said third party entity or said third party entities may or may not comprise entities in a health related field; further comprising including the step of enabling said entity, said end users, said third party entity or said third party entities to relay said information using any communicative format or technology.
- 151. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said prompts to comprise specific headings, questions, information, or guidelines that enable said end users to supply said end user data.
- 152. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said prompts to comprise specific headings, questions, information, or guidelines that have health related topicalities, where the totality of said prompts comprises the addressing of health related matters of said end users and where the intended purpose of said totality of said prompts is to raise said end users' awareness of health related issues pertinent to said end users.
- 153. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said reminders, tips, or suggestions to comprise both health related and non-health related topicalities, and comprising the step of enabling said prompts to comprise specific

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headings, questions, information, or guidelines comprising both health related and non-health related topicalities.

- 154. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of providing said prompts to said end users either directly by said entity providing said health reminder, or indirectly via a third party or third parties, where said third party or said third parties may or may not comprise entities in a health related field, where said third party or said third parties may be associated with, retained by, referred by, or linked via Internet or intranet with said entity, and comprising the step of providing said prompts to said end users using any communicative format or technology.
- 155. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of adding, modifying, revising, or deleting said prompts by any party or parties deemed desirable, where said party or said parties comprise said entity, said end users, and/or associated third party entity or third party entities, where said third party entity or said third party entities may or may not comprise entities in a health related field, where said third party or said third parties may be associated with, retained by, referred by, or linked via Internet or intranet with said entity and/or said end users, and comprising the step of adding, modifying, revising, or deleting said prompts using any communicative format or technology.
- 156. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said end user data to comprise basic cardholder information.
- 157. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said end user data to comprise end user preferences information.
- 158. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of adding, modifying, revising, or deleting said end user data by any party or parties deemed desirable, where said party or said parties comprise said entity, said end users, and/or associated third party entity or third party entities, where said third party entity or said third party entities may or may not comprise entities in a health related field, where

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said third party or said third parties may be associated with, retained by, referred by, or linked via Internet or intranet with said entity and/or said end users, and comprising the step of adding, modifying, revising, or deleting said end user data using any communicative format or technology.

- 159. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said health reminder to comprise reminders, tips, or suggestions that are automatic, general, or non end user-specific in nature, and do not comprise basic end user information or end user preferences information.
- 160. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said health reminder to comprise reminders, tips, or suggestions that comprise basic end user information to tailor said reminders, tips, or suggestions to said end users.
- 161. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said health reminder to comprise reminders, tips, or suggestions that comprise end user preferences information that enables said end users to select, customize or tailor any or all aspects of said reminders, tips, or suggestions comprising parameters, content, text, etc, where the end results comprise the preferences or desires of said end users.
- 162. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said health reminder to comprise reminders, tips, or suggestions that comprise any permutation or combination of: reminders, tips, or suggestions that are automatic, general, or non-end user specific in nature, and do not comprise basic end user information or end user preferences information; reminders, tips, or suggestions that comprise basic end user information to tailor said reminders, tips, or suggestions to said end users; or reminders, tips, or suggestions that comprise end user preferences information that enables said end users to select, customize or tailor any or all aspects of said reminders, tips, or suggestions comprising parameters, content, text, etc, where the end results comprise the preferences or desires of said end users.

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- 163. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of acknowledging the receipt of said health reminder by said end users.
- 164. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said health reminder to appear directly on said financial card transaction statements.
- 165. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said health reminder to appear directly on said financial card transaction statements, where said financial card transaction statements comprise the step of separating the health reminder portion of said financial card transaction statements from said financial card transaction statements that enables said health reminder portion to be removed from and stored separately from the transaction portion of said financial card transaction statements.
- 166. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said health reminder to comprise a separate item in addition to said financial card transaction statements in the financial card transaction statement enclosures.
- 167. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of providing said health reminder to said end users independently of said financial card transaction statements or financial card transaction statement enclosures.
- 168. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of providing said health reminder directly by said entity to said end users, or including for providing said health reminder to said end users indirectly via a third party or third parties, where said third party or said third parties may be associated with, retained by, referred by, or linked via Internet or intranet with said entity.
- 169. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of selecting, by any party or parties deemed desirable, the communicative format of said health reminder and/or said financial card statements, where said party or said parties comprise said entity, said end users, and/or associated third party or third parties.

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- 170. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said health reminder and said financial card transaction statements to comprise identical, similar or different communicative formats.
- 171. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said health reminder and/or said financial card transaction statements, either combined, not combined but sent together in the same enclosure, or sent separately, to be sent in a plurality of communications using identical, similar, or different communicative formats, further comprising including the step of enabling each of the said plurality of communications using identical, similar, or different communicative formats to comprise any combination or permutation of identical, similar, or different content.
- 172. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said method to comprise disclaimers.
- 173. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling any or all method steps to be performed either directly by said entity; indirectly by a third party or third parties, where said third party or said third parties are associated with, retained by, referred by, or linked via Internet or intranet with said entity; or by any combination or permutation of said entity and said third party/said third parties.
- 174. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of enabling said method to be used in concert with special features or end user benefits intended for use with financial cards, or in concert with special features or end user benefits intended for use with a health reminder.
- 175. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 146, further comprising including the step of providing said health reminder, as provided by said entity providing said financial cards and said related financial card customer services, to the public at large in absence of said financial cards, said related financial card customer services, and said financial card

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transaction statements, where the said providing of said health reminder by said entity acts as a public service.

- 176. (Previously Amended) A system of providing health reminders as part of transaction statement provided to end users of financial cards and related financial card customer services, wherein the health reminder is not related to a product purchase listed on the transaction statement, , comprising:
  - a. a computer based system for providing said said health reminder associated with transaction statements to said end users, wherein
    - i. the health reminder is not related to a product purchase listed on the transaction statement, and said financial cards and said related financial card services enable said end users to perform financial card functions relating to and comprising the purchase goods and services, and
  - b. wherein said system optionally further comprises at least one system component for providing at least one function or service selected from;
    - said health reminder acts as a health awareness tool for said end users of said financial cards and said related financial card customer services,
    - ii. said health reminder comprises at least one health related reminder(s), tip(s), or suggestion(s) for said end users and/or individuals related to or otherwise associated with said end users with regards to any health-related topic(s), health-related preventive measure(s), medical check-up(s), medical examination(s), or medical procedure(s), and
    - iii. said health awareness tool encourages said end users to take self-initiative or self-action to heed said health-related preventive measure(s), to schedule said medical check-up(s), said medical examination(s), or said medical procedure(s),
    - iv. said health awareness tool is not used to remind said end users of a preexisting or already scheduled doctor appointment, but rather to raise health awareness and to encourage said end users

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to self-schedule said medical check-up(s), said medical examination(s), and/or said medical procedure(s) in absence of any direct prompting from the doctors or health care professionals of said end users;

said system optionally further comprises at least one system component for at least one of:

- attracting potential end users to said financial cards and said related financial card customer services comprising said health reminder;
- d. converting said potential end users into said end users by enabling said potential end users to apply for said financial cards and said related financial card customer services, where the application for said financial cards and said related financial card customer services reflects the preferences, desires, or consent of said end users to receive said health reminder, or, in the case of said health reminder being offered to existing end users of financial cards and related financial card customer services, where said existing end users express preferences, desires or consent to receive said health reminder, and comprising for providing said potential end users with for applying for said financial cards and said related financial card customer services, where said for applying for said financial cards and said related financial cards and said related financial cards customer services, where said for applying for said financial cards and said related financial card customer services comprises the use of any communicative format;
- e. approving said potential end users to become approved said end users of said financial cards and said related financial card customer services, where the receiving of said health reminder is contingent upon said potential end users becoming said approved said end users of said financial cards and said financial card customer services, and where said health reminder is offered as an incentive for said potential end users to become said end users for said financial cards and said related financial card customer services;
- f. providing and relaying prompts to said end users relating to said health reminder, where said for providing and relaying prompts comprises the use of any communicative format, and where said for providing and

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relaying prompts to said end users may occur at any time before, during, or after said potential end users have become said approved end users of said financial cards and said related financial card customer services;

- g. receiving end user data relating to said health reminder, where said for receiving said end user data comprises the use of any communicative format, and where said for receiving said end user data relating to said health reminder may occur at any time before, during, or after said potential end users have become said approved end users of said financial cards and said related financial card customer services;
- h. storing said end user data on a computer readable medium relating to said health reminder;
- allowing said end users to perform transactions relating to said financial cards and related financial card customer services, using said financial cards, resulting in transaction data;
- j. storing said transaction data on a computer readable medium;
- k. providing said health reminder to said end users based on said prompts and said end user data, where said for providing said health reminder comprises the use of any communicative format; and,
- providing financial card transaction statements to said end users based on said transaction data, where said for providing said financial card transaction statements comprises the use of any communicative format.
- 177. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said system to function in terms of a financial card comprising a health reminder feature, or where said system functions in terms of a health reminder comprising a financial card feature, comprising enabling an entity that provides said health reminder to also issue financial cards and provide financial card customer services, where said financial cards and said related financial card customer services are specifically offered in conjunction with, specifically related or tied to, or otherwise specifically combined with said health reminder, and not where said entity issues said financial cards and provides said related financial card customer services where said health reminder is not specifically

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offered in conjunction with, not specifically related or tied to, or not otherwise specifically combined with financial cards and said related financial card customer services.

- 178. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said financial card to comprise any financial card used wholly or in part as a credit instrument.
- 179. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said financial card to comprise any financial card used wholly or in part as a debit or ATM instrument.
- 180. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said health reminder to comprise information provided by the following entities, either singularly, or plurally in any combination or permutation: said entity; said end users; or a third party entity or third party entities, where said third party entity or said third party entities may or may not comprise entities in a health related field; further comprising a system component for enabling said entity, said end users, said third party entity or said third party entities to relay said information using any communicative format or technology.
- 181. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said prompts to comprise specific headings, questions, information, or guidelines that enable said end users to supply said end user data.
- 182. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said prompts to comprise specific headings, questions, information, or guidelines that have health related topicalities, where the totality of said prompts comprises the addressing of health related matters of said end user and where the intended purpose of said totality of said prompts is to raise said end user's awareness of health related issues pertinent to said end user.
- 183. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said reminders, tips, or suggestions to comprise both health related and non-health related topicalities, and comprising for enabling said prompts to comprise specific headings,

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questions, information, or guidelines comprising both health related and non-health related topicalities.

- 184. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for providing said prompts to said end users either directly by said entity providing said health reminder, or indirectly via a third party or third parties, where said third party or said third parties may or may not comprise entities in a health related field, where said third party or said third parties may be associated with, retained by, referred by, or linked via Internet or intranet with said entity, and comprising for providing said prompts to said end users using any communicative format or technology.
- 185. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for adding, modifying, revising, or deleting said prompts by any party or parties deemed desirable, where said party or said parties comprise said entity, said end users, and/or associated third party entity or third party entities, where said third party entities may or may not comprise entities in a health related field, where said third party or said third parties may be associated with, retained by, referred by, or linked via Internet or intranet with said entity and/or said end users, and comprising for adding, modifying, revising, or deleting said prompts using any communicative format or technology.
- 186. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said end user data to comprise basic cardholder information.
- 187. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said end user data to comprise end user preferences information.
- 188. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for adding, modifying, revising, or deleting said end user data by any party or parties deemed desirable, where said party or said parties comprise said entity, said end users, and/or associated third party entity or third party entities, where said third party entity or said third party entities may or may not comprise entities in a health related field, where

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said third party or said third parties may be associated with, retained by, referred by, or linked via Internet or intranet with said entity and/or said end users, and comprising for adding, modifying, revising, or deleting said end user data using any communicative format or technology.

- 189. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said health reminder to comprise reminders, tips, or suggestions that are automatic, general, or non end user-specific in nature, and do not comprise basic end user information or end user preferences information.
- 190. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said health reminder to comprise reminders, tips, or suggestions that comprise basic end user information to tailor said reminders, tips, or suggestions to said end users.
- 191. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said health reminder to comprise reminders, tips, or suggestions that comprise end user preferences information that enables said end users to select, customize or tailor any or all aspects of said reminders, tips, or suggestions comprising parameters, content, text, etc, where the end results comprise the preferences or desires of said end users.
- 192. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said health reminder to comprise reminders, tips, or suggestions that comprise any permutation or combination of: reminders, tips, or suggestions that are automatic, general, or non-end user specific in nature, and do not comprise basic end user information or end user preferences information; reminders, tips, or suggestions that comprise basic end user information to tailor said reminders, tips, or suggestions to said end users; or reminders, tips, or suggestions that comprise end user preferences information that enables said end users to select, customize or tailor any or all aspects of said reminders, tips, or suggestions comprising parameters, content, text, etc, where the end results comprise the preferences or desires of said end users.

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- 193. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for acknowledging the receipt of said health reminder by said end users.
- 194. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said health reminder to appear directly on said financial card transaction statements.
- 195. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said health reminder to appear directly on said financial card transaction statements, where said financial card transaction statements comprise for separating the health reminder portion of said financial card transaction statements from said financial card transaction statements that enables said health reminder portion to be removed from and stored separately from the transaction portion of said financial card transaction statements.
- 196. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said health reminder to comprise a separate item in addition to said financial card transaction statements in the financial card transaction statement enclosures.
- 197. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for providing said health reminder to said end users independently of said financial card transaction statements or financial card transaction statement enclosures.
- 198. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for providing said health reminder directly by said entity to said end users, or including to provide said health reminder to said end users indirectly via a third party or third parties, where said third party or said third parties may be associated with, retained by, referred by, or linked via Internet or intranet with said entity.
- 199. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for selecting, by any party or parties deemed desirable, the communicative format of said health reminder and/or said financial card statements, where said party or said parties comprise said entity, said end users, and/or associated third party or third parties.

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- 200. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said health reminder and said financial card transaction statements to comprise identical, similar or different communicative formats.
- 201. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said health reminder and/or said financial card transaction statements, either combined, not combined but sent together in the same enclosure, or sent separately, to be sent in a plurality of communications using identical, similar, or different communicative formats, further comprising a system component for enabling each of the said plurality of communications using identical, similar, or different communicative formats to comprise any combination or permutation of identical, similar, or different content.
- 202. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said system to comprise disclaimers.
- 203. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling any or all system steps to be performed either directly by said entity; indirectly by a third party or third parties, where said third party or said third parties are associated with, retained by, referred by, or linked via Internet or intranet with said entity; or by any combination or permutation of said entity and said third party/said third parties.
- 204. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for enabling said system to be used in concert with special features or end user benefits intended for use with financial cards, or in concert with special features or end user benefits intended for use with a health reminder.
- 205. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 176, further comprising a system component for providing said health reminder, as provided by said entity providing said financial cards and said related financial card customer services, to the public at large in absence of said financial cards, said related financial card customer services, and said financial card

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Transaction statements, where said providing of said health reminder by said entity acts as a public service.